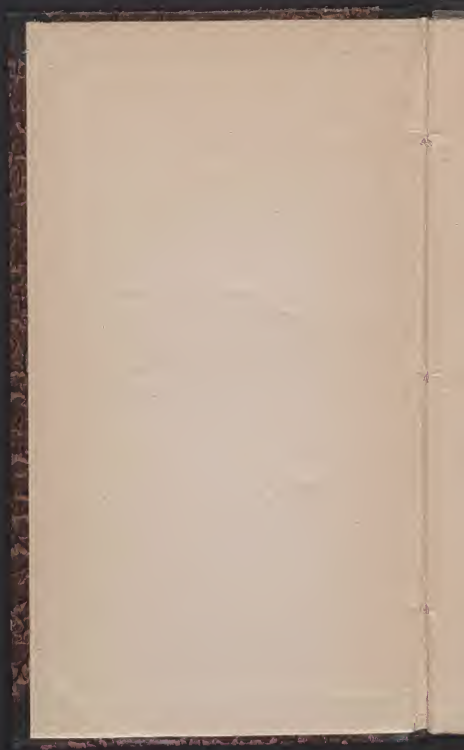


*Anecdotes
of
Clave the Black*





819.3

Stu

Sturla Þórðarson

ANECDOTES
OF
OLAVE THE BLACK,
KING OF MAN,
AND
THE HEBRIDIAN PRINCES OF THE
SOMERLED FAMILY,
TO WHICH ARE ADDED
XVIII. EULOGIES
ON
HACO KING OF NORWAY,

BY
SNORRO STURLSON

POET TO THAT MONARCH,
NOW FIRST PUBLISHED
IN THE ORIGINAL ISLANDIC FROM
THE FLATEYAN AND OTHER
MANUSCRIPTS; WITH A LITERAL
VERSION, AND NOTES.

By the
Rev. JAMES JOHNSTONE A. M. Chaplain
to His BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S ENVOY
EXTRAORDINARY at the COURT OF
DENMARK.

Printed for the Author 1780.

James Johnston





To shew the affinity of the English language with the most pure and original dialect of the Teutonic, and for the benefit of those who study Islandic, the version, both of the fragment and poems, is as literal as possible; and this, it is hoped, will be deemed a sufficient apology for its uncountness.

The translator wished to have openly acknowledged his obligations to a worthy, and ingenious native of ICELAND, who assisted him in this performance; that Gentleman's extreme delicacy, however, prevents the Editor from even having the satisfaction of mentioning his name.

Par-



Particularities of the Islandic
pronunciation.

In the Islandic á accented is pronounced au, nearly as ow in the verb bow: æ like aï broad, or ie in die: au sounds oi: ö as a Parisian pronounces eu; ú accented sounds oo: y as the French pronounce u: d, like th softly articulated: g often weak as in the French word cloigner: hl with an aspiration difficult to be expressed, but much resembling the Welsh ll; hr, initial, as the German guttural chr; ll sounds tl: p like f feeble; þ, equivalent to th, hard and strong. Many Islandic words end in pr, kr, fr, &c.
to



where an u, or o, is supposed to come between the consonant and liquid, but is articulated so rapidly as hardly to be perceived, consequently forms no syllable.

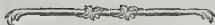


ERRATA.

Pag. 13. for alecady r. already.

— 41. The NB, belongs to poem 6.

A
FRAGMENT
OF
ANCIENT SCOTTISH
HISTORY.



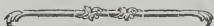
Or

Flateyjar Bók.

MCCXXIX.

ALEINN het madr ok var Jarl i SKOTLANDI son ROLANDS Jarls af GALVEY. Hann var enn mesti hermadr þan tíma. Hann hafði fíðla skipa, með miklum her, ok heriadi bæði um SUDUREYJAR ok IRLAND, ok gerði mikinn hernat víða um vestr lönd.

Þá var OLAFR Kónongr GUD-
RAUDAR son í MAUN, ok hellt
hann



From the
Manuscript of Flatey.

MCCXXIX.

In SCOTLAND *there lived an Earl called ALLAN the son of ROLAND Earl of GALLOWAY. He was the most warlike hero of those times. He had many ships, with numerous armies, and plundered both in the SUDUREYS and IRELAND, and made great devastation wide through the western lands.*

OLAVE *the son of GODRED was then King of MAN, and held his*
A 2 *prin-*

hann drengeliga því ríki fyrir Jarle ok með miklöm trúleika við HAKON Kónong. Enn SUDREYIA Konungar, þeir sem voro SUMARLIDA ættar, voro miök útrúir HAKONI Konungi. Þessir voro Konungar í SUDREYIOM, DUGALL SKRAGGR, DUNGADUR bródir hans fadir JONS er síðan var Konungr. Þeir voro synir DUGALS SUMARLIDA súnar. OSPACR het madr er lengi hafði verit með BIRKEBEINOM. Þat kom upp at hann var sun DUGALLS Konongs, ok brodir þessarra. SUMARLIDI het enn * frændi þeirra er þá var enn Konungr í SUDREYIOM.

1230.

* brodir þeirra. *alia exemplar.*

*principality gallantly against the Earl, and with much * trustiness to King HACO. But the SUDUREYAN Kings, they which were of SOMERLEDS family, were very ** untrue to King HACO. These Kings of the SUDUREYS were DUGAL SCRAG, and DUNCAN his Brother the father of JOHN who since was King. They were the sons of DUGAL the son of SOMERLED. A person named USPAC had long been with the BIRKEBEINS. It came out that he was the son of King DUGAL, and brother to the other two.*** A relation of theirs, called SOMERLED, was then also a King in the SUDUREYS.*

A 3

1230.

* fidelity. ** false. *** in other *Mss.*
 lians brodir. i. e. his brother.

MCCXXX.

Um vetrinn er áleid hafde
 HACON Konungr þing í bænom,
 á því þingi gaf hann USPAKI
 Konongs nafn; Enn hann var
 kalladr USPAKR enn SUDUR-EYSKI; Þar
 med gaf hann honom HAKO-
 NAR nafn; gerdi Kónongr þat þá
 bert, at hann mundi fá honom lid
 vestr um haf of sumarit.

HACON Konungr fór um va-
 rit norðr til BIÖRGYNAR, enn er
 hann kom þar, let hann búa her
 vestr um haf, þan er fara skyldi
 med USPAKI. Til þessrarar fer-
 dar feck SKULI Jarl sumt lidit.
 Ellifo skip höfðu þeir af NORVEGI,

Sem

MCCXXX.

*Towards the end of winter King HACO held a meeting * in his residence, at which meeting he gave USPAC the Title of King; and he was called USPAC the SUDUREYAN; therewith he gave him the name of HACO; the King then made it also clear that he intended giving him an army destin'd for the western seas in summer.*

About spring HACO the King went north to BERGEN, and when he came there, he ordered an armament to be prepared, which should go with USPAC to the western seas. To this expedition Earl SKULI contributed some troops. Eleven ships had they from NORWAY.

A 4

While

* At TUNSBURG.

Sem þeir voro búnir, kom vestan um haf, af SUDREYIOM, OLAFR SVARTI MANAR KONUNGR. Hann sagði mikinn úfrid, vestan or eyionom. Hann kvadz af því stockit hafa or MAUN, er ALEINN Jarl hafði dregit saman mikinn her ok ætladi á hendur MARMÖNNOM. Hann hermdi mörg stór - yrde Jarls til NOREGS manna, han sagði egi tor - sottara hafit til NOREGS, enn af NOREGI til SKOTLANDS; ok þar er ecki verra til hafna þeim er heria vilia. Enn þat var mælt, enn egi gert.

OLAFR KONUNGR dvaldiz fjórar nætur í bænom ádr enn hann fór vestr

While these preparations were making, OLAVE the SWARTHY, King of MAN, came from the SUDUREYS, in the western sea. He spoke of great hostilities in the western Islands. He said that he had fled from MAN, because Earl ALLAN had drawn together a great army and aimed at getting the MANKSMEN into his hands. He repeated many strong expressions uttered against the NORWEGIANS by the Earl, who hinted, that the sea was not more impracticable to NORWAY, than from NORWAY to SCOTLAND; and that the NORWEGIAN harbours were not inaccessible to such as would plunder there. But this was only said, and never done.

King OLAVE remained four nights in the city before he proceeded west-

A 5 wards

vestr. OLAFR Konongr geck á skip med PALL BALKI syni til ORKNEYIA, enn þá feck JON Jarl honom skip: þat er UXINN het; þá er þeir fóro. or ORKNEYIOM höfdo þeir XX skip.

Ok er þat spurdi OTTAR SNÆKOLLR, oc PALL BALKI, UNGI son PALS, þá fóro þeir fyrer fudr í SKID, ok fundu þá í VESTRA fyttdi ÞORKEL ÞORMODS son, ok baurduz vid hann. Fell þar ÞORKELL ok synir hans tveir. Enn ÞORMODR komz undan sonr hans, med því móti, at hann lióp í ker eitt er þar flaut vid skip eitt; oc rak þat, med hann, at SKOTLANDI fyrer

wards. King OLAVE went in the ship with PAUL BALKASON to the ORKNEYS; and then Earl JOHN gave him a ship: it was called the Ox; and at leaving the ORKNEYS they had twenty ships.

When OTTAR SNEKOLL, PAUL BALKASON, and UNGI PAULSON heard this, then sailed they southwards before SKY, and found, in WESTERFORD, THORKEL THORMODSON. And they fought with him. And THORKEL fell there and two of his sons. But his son THORMOD came off in this manner, he leapt into a boat which floated there by its ship; and it, with him, was *wrecked on

SKOT-

* i. e. was driven on shore.



fyrer nordan HATTAR-SKOTT. Efter þetta foro þeir OTTAR ok BALKI til mótz við þá USFAC Kónong.

Sem þeir komo öllu lidingo fudr í ILARSUND, þá voro þeir þar bræðor USFAKR Kónongr DUGALL ok DUNGADR, ok fá hofdingi þridi er SUMARLIDI het, ok frændi þeirra, oc höfðo mickit lid. Þeir budo NORDMÖNNUM til veizlu, ok höfðo Vín sterkt. NORDMÖNNUM var sagt at egi mundi allt svika-lauft vera, ok því villdu þeir eigi tilfara veizlunnar, drógo þá hverir tveggi lid saman; Þviat hvarigir trúðu öðrum.

DUN-

SCOTLAND. *After this, OTTAR and BALKA sailed to meet with King USPAC.*

When all the forces had come south to ILA-SOUND, the Brothers King USPAC, DUGAL, and DUNCAN, were already there, and also the third chieftain, named SOMERLED, their relation; and they had a great army. They bade the NORWEGIANS to an entertainment, and had strong wines. It was told the NORWEGIANS that all this was not "guileless, wherefore they would not go to the entertainment. On this each of the two Commanders drew his forces together; for they trusted not each other.

DUN-

* A brother of theirs. some copies.

** i. e. without some sinister intention.



DUNGADR fvað á skipi bróðr
fins USPACS. Litlu fidarr,
veittu NORDMENN at göngo þeim
SUDREYINGOM, ok drapo SUMAR-
LIDA ok mart manna med ho-
nom. Þeir taka DUGAL hön-
dom ok settu i fiötr. Fátt fell þar
af NORDMÖNNUM. Egi var OSPAKR
vid þetta; ok, er hann varð var
vid, skaut hann í brott DUNGADI
bróðr sinum, enn DUGAL bróðr
sinn tók hann í sína gæzlu.

Þeir söfnodo nú lidi um eyiar-
nar, ok fengo nú med öllu saman
áttatíge skipa, ok sigldu síðan suðr til
SATIRIS - MULA, ok fva inn til
BOTAR, ok þar sátu SKOTAR í
kastala einum, ok var fyrir stivardr
einn

DUNCAN *slept in the ship of his Brother USPAC.* * *In a little time, the NORVEGIANS made an onset upon the SUDUREYANS, and killed SOMERLED, and many men with him. They got DUGAL into their hands, and **set him in fetters. Few of the NORVEGIANS fell there. USPAC was not at this affair; and, when he was informed of it, he hastened away his Brother DUNCAN, but his Brother DUGAL he took under his own protection.*

The NORVEGIANS now collected troops from the islands, and they got together, in all, eighty ships, and then sailed south to the MULL of KINTIRE, and so in to BUTE. And the SCOTS lay there in a castle, and a
 STEWARD

* unexpectedly. ** put.

einn af SKOTUM. NORDMENN
 lögdo til Borgarinnar ok veit-
 tu harda atgöngu, enn SKOTAR
 vörðoz vel ok steiftu ofan à þá
 biki vellandi ok blyi. Þar fell
 mart af NORDMAUNNUM enn mart
 vard fært. Þeir bundu yfer sik flaka
 af vidi, ok hiuggu sidan murinn,
 því at steinninn var blautr, ok hrapadi
 veggrinn efter þeim; þeir hiuggu
 upp vid iördina. Sá kertisveinn
 er SKAGI SKITRADR het, þann
 skaut stivardin til bana í því er
 han lióp á borgar vegginn. Þriá
 daga börduz þeir vid borgar-menn
 ádr þeir fengi unnit hana. Þar
 tóko þeir mikit fe ok ridara einn
 SKOTSKAN, er sik leyfti út fyrir
 þriú hundrut marka brendra. Þar
 fell

STEWARD of SCOTLAND commanded over them. The NORWEGIANS sat down before the Fortrefs, and gave a hard assault. But the SCOTCH fought well, and threw down upon them boiling pitch and lead. Many of the NORWEGIANS fell, many also were wounded. They therefore * prepared over themselves a covering of boards, and then hewed down the walls, for the stone was soft, and the rampart fell with them; they cut it up from the foundations. † That Master of the Lights, called SKAGI SKITRADI, shot the STEWARD ** to death while he was leaping upon the ramparts of the fortrefs. Three days did they fight with the Garrison before they won it. There took they much wealth, and a SCOTTISH Knight who *** released himself for three hundred marks

B of

* erected. † See Candelarii in the notes. ** dead. *** ransomed,

fell af NORDMÖNNOM SVEINUNGR SVARTI ok nockor þriú hundrot manna allt saman ok af SUDREYINGOM. Þeir fengo mikin storm, ok tynduzt þar þriú skip med mönnum, ok öllu því er á var.

Þeir spurdo þá at ALEINN Jarl var sudr á NESIOM, ok hafði dregit saman hálfu annat hundrat skipa ok ætladi at þeim; Þeir sigldo þá Norðr under SATIRI, ok lágo þar um hríd, ok gerdo margar uppráser. Þá feck USPAKR Konungr fóttr, ok lá litla hríd, ok andadiz, ok var miög harmadr af finom monnom. Efter þetta gerdiz OLAFR Konungr höfðingi yfer herinom öllom; hann sigldi til KAUFMANNA-EYIA, ok sat þar lengi um vetrinn.

Þeir

of* refined silver. Of the NORWEGIANS there fell SWEINUNG the SWARTH, and in all about three hundred men some of whom were SUDUREYANS. They here met a great storm, and lost three ships with the men, and all that was on board.

The NORWEGIANS now heard that Earl ALLAN was south at the NESSES, and had drawn together an hundred and fifty ships intended against them; wherefore they sail'd northwards under KINTIRE, and lay there for some time, and made several descents. USPAC the King now ** caught a disorder, and lay a little while, and died, and was much lamented of his men. Upon this, King OLAVE was made Commander over all the armies; and going to the MERCHANT-ISLES they remained there great part of the winter.

B 2

They

* fine,

** fell sick,

Þeir fóro sudr til MANAR, ok var þar safnadr fyrer þeim; íá madr var fyrer þeim er ÞORKELL het ok vor NIALSSON. MANARMENN villdu egi beriaz í móti OLAFI Konongi; ok rufo þeir safnadin fyrer ÞORKELI, ok toko NORDMENN hann höndom ok hofdo i fiötrom um rid. Þeir lögdo giöllð a MANVERIA, þriá peninga ENSKA af hverri Kú, ok fæda allan herin um vetrin.

Sem vara tók, fóro NORDMENN brot or MAUN enn OLAFR Konongr var efter. Þeir sigldo norðr under SATIRI, ok gengo þar á land, enn SCÓTAR komo á móti þeim, ok bördoz vid þá, ok voro miög

*They next went south against the MANKSMEN, who assembled to oppose them, and who were led by a person named THORKEL the son of NIEL. But the MANKSMEN wou'd not fight against OLAVE; and they * broke up their confederacy before THORKEL, and the NORWEGIANS took him into their hands, and had him in fetters for some time. They laid as a tribute on the MANKSMEN, three ENGLISH pennies for every cow, and also maintenance for the whole army through the winter.*

Afterwards the NORWEGIANS steered their course away from MAN, tho King OLAVE remained behind. They sailed north under KINTIRE, and there went on shore; but the SCOTCH came to meet them, and fought with them,

B 3 and

* dispersed in the presence of THORKEL.

mög lausir við bardagan lupo til ok frá; ok fello margir af hvarom tveggjom. Ok er NORDMENN komo til skipa sinna, þá höfdo SKOTAR drepit alla sveina þeirra, þá er á landi voro at búa víst, ok allir matkallar voro í brotto. Þeir veitto margar upprásir á SATIRI, ok foru þadan norðr í EYJAR.

Flestir NORDMENN sigldo þegar austr til NOREGS, ok höfdo í þessari ferð hellzt verit unnar Konungsins sæmdir fyrir vestann haf. Ok er þeir komo á hans fund, þackaði hann þeim vel þessa sína ferð; ok lýkr þar SUDREYINGA þætti.



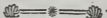
and * darting to and fro were very irregular in the battle; and many fell on either side. And when the NORWEGIANS came to their ships, then had the SCOTCH killed all the servants that were on land preparing victuals; and all the flesh-kettles were carried away. They next made many descents in KINTIRE, and proceeded thence north to the ORKNEY Islands.

Soon after, most of the NORWEGIANS sailed east to NORWAY, having, in this expedition to the western isles, won great renown for their King. And when they came into his presence, he thanked them** well for this their voyage; here ended the *** acts of the SUDOREYANS.

* i. e. alternately attacking and retreating, with incredible rapidity, occasioned great confusion in the Battle.

** heartily.

*** transactions in the SUDOREYS.



NOTES, and SIGNIFICATIONS
of the proper names which occur in
this Fragment.

I. **A**llan the Conqueror; from *all* Is, and *win* to conquer. This *Allan* was high Constable of *Scotland*, and, about MCCXXVIII, he with *Thomas* Earl of *Arbol*, and King *Reginald* conquered the Isle of *Man*, and left Officers there to collect the Taxes. *Olave Klining*, after the Death of his first Queen *Ingeburgis* whose father was *Haco* Earl of *Orkney*, married *Affrica* the daughter of *Fergus* Lord of *Galloway*; and Earl *Allan's* son married the daughter of *Godred Don*. It was probably from this connexion, that the *Galloway* family became so much interested in the affairs of the western Islands, and in those of *Man*.

2. *Balka*

2. *Balka son Paul*, the Supporter; from *Balki* Isl. a Balk, or beam. This *Paul Balkason* is indoubtedly the same, who in the chronicle of *Man* is called *Pol Boke Vicecomes de Sky*, and who, about the year MCCXXIII. retired with *Olave* to his father in law *Ferchard* Earl of *Ross*, for *Olave*, repudiating his first Queen, of the *Lambour* family in *Kintire*, had married *Christina* that nobleman's daughter. Afterwards, they suddenly made a descent on *Jona*, where having surprised and taken *Godred Don*, *Paul Balkason* put out his eyes, in spite of the remonstrances of *Olave*. Next summer, *Olave* and his brother *Rognwald* divided the principality of the Isles between them.

3. *Birkebeins*; from *birki* Isl. the *Birch* tree, and *Bein* a bone, the shank, the foot. The *Birkebeins*, at the time *Uspac* lived among them, consisted

of the dregs of the people, and were so poor, that, instead of shoes, they wore sandals made of the Birch tree. However, after this rabble had placed *Suerer* on the throne of *Norway*, about MCLXXXIV., the name *Birke-bein* continued to be no longer a term of reproach, but was esteemed as honourable, and assumed even by the Courtiers.

4. *Candelarii*, young gentlemen' of Family whose office it was to hold tapers in their hands while the *Norwegian* monarchs were at table. This office corresponded exactly to the *Canhwyllyd* of the *Welsh* Princes. See *Howel Dda's Welsh Laws*.
 5. *Dugal*. The black foreigner; from the *Irish* words *dubb*, black, and *Gil* a foreigner.
 6. *Duncan*. The Brown; from *don*, Ir. brown.
 7. *Galovege*, *Galloway*; from *Gaël*, Ir. the Caledonians, and *vegr*, Is. a way.
7. Ga-

- Godred.* The beautifully red ; from *gode*, Is. good, and *raudr* red.
9. *Haco.* The noble; from *bákr* Is. high.
10. *Hattarskot* probably some promontory of *Argyleshire* or *Rosé*.
11. *Ila*, an Island to the West of *Scorland*.
12. *Kintire*, the head or promontory of the Country; from the Irish words *ceun*, the head, and *tír* a land. It is in the Islandic writers generally called *Satiri* or *Saltiri*.
13. *Man*. A large island, in the Irish sea, belonging to the *Dukes* of *Atbole* who are Lords of *Man* and the Isles.
14. *Merchant-Isles*. I know not what isles were so called.
15. *Mul* a promontory from *muli* Is. a steep, bold cape. *Mul* in Irish signifies a beak or projection; in Welsh *moël* denotes a high bare mountain.
16. The *Neffes* mean the Mulls of *Galloway*. This word is primitively derived from the Greek *νῆω* to swim; hence was formed a noun *νησος*, which anciently denoted

ted either capes, or islands, from their appearing at a distance to float on the water. The *Doric* colonies, which settled in *Italy*, changed *νησος* into *nafus*, and, losing sight entirely of the original meaning, used it metaphorically to signify the Nose. From *nafus* the *Scandinavians* formed their *nas*, but used it in the same extent as the *Greeks* did their word *ῥιον*, which primitively signified the nose but afterwards a cape. From *ῥιον* the *Welsh* borrowed their *rhyn* of the same import.

17. *Niel* is the *Norwegian* abbreviation of *Nicholas*. This *Niel*, as we learn from the chronicle of *Man*, had three sons *Dugal*, *Tborkel* and *Maol-Mbuire*, whom *Harald* King of *Man* sent, together with *Josepb* one of his favourites, as commissioners to *M-Lauchlan*, *Haralds* cousin, vice-roy of the Island, and who pro-

probably was related to *M'Laclan* (son of *Murcard O - Brian*, King of *Ireland*) whose daughter *Fingála* was married to *Godred* the son of *Olave*. *

M'Laclan appointed to meet the Commissioners at *Tinwáld*, where, some quarrel arising, a bloody skirmish ensued, in which *Dugal*, *Maol-Mbuire*, and *Joseph* lost their lives. In the spring *Harald* went to *Man*; and *M'Lauchlan* flying to *Wales* with *Godred* his Foster-son, they, with a retinue of forty men, were shipwrecked and drowned. I am apt to think the *M'Niels* of *Barra* are descended from this *Niel*; and that the ** *M'Lauchlans* of *Argyle* are sprung from one of the *M'Lauchlans* mentioned in this note. *M'Lauchlan* in Irish signifies the son of the *Scandinavian*; and perhaps *Murchard's* son was surnamed *Lochlanach* or the *Scandinavian* from

* vide *Ch. Man.* ** A. D. 1301. A *M'Lauchlan* made a descent upon the *Hebrides*. vid. *Hist. Orcad.*

from his *Father's* having sworn fealty
to *Magnus Barfor* King of *Norway*.

18. *Olave*. The Sage; from *olamb* Ir. wife.

19. *Orkneys*. So called from *orku*, Is.
the largest species of seals (formerly
abounding in that place,) and *ey* an
Island.

20. *Ottar*. The terrible; from *Otti* Is.
fear.

21. *Rognvald*, *Ragnvald*, *Reginald*, *Reg-
nal*, *Renald*, *Ronald* are all corrup-
tions of *Rognvald* which signifies,
Strengthen'd of God; from *Rogn* Is.
the Deity, and *valdr* power.

22. *Skrag*. Shrill-voiced; from *skrakr*.
Is. a shriek.

23. *Skagi Skitradi*, Tall and ready in
council; from *Skagi* Is. high, *skiot*
quick, and *radi* counsel.

24. *Skulo*. The active. Earl *Sculo* was
brother to *Ingui* King of Norway, and
Haco's competitor for the Crown.
The Norwegians, to effect a coali-
tion

tion, persuaded *Haco* to marry the Earls daughter. *Skulo*, on account of his power, influence, and abilities, was created a *Duke*, and made a great figure in those times.

25. *Sky*. An Island on the coast of Scotland; from *Skiach* Ir. cloudy.

26. *Snakoll*. White-headed; from *snar* Is. snow, and *kollr* the crown of the head.

27. *Somerled*. The summer soldier; from *sumar* Is. summer, and *lid* a body of troops; *Wetterled*, or the winter soldier, was also a proper name among the Norwegians. From *Somerled*. I, the Earl of *Antrim*, Lord *M'Donald*, and the other branches of that family, the *M'Faus*, *M'Dugals*, and several other tribes are descended.

Sudureys. The southern division of the Isles of Scotland; from *sudr*, Is. south and *ey* an Island. They formed a diocese the Bishop of which was called Bishop of *Sodor*, i. e. the *Sudureys*.

28. *Thor-*

28. *Thorkel*. The servant of *Thor*; from *Thor* the Scandinavian God of war, and *kall* a servant. Names, among the *Higblanders*, often expressed a dedication of their children to the service and tutelage of some superior Being; hence* *Maol-Jes*, the servant of *Jesus*, *Maol-Choluimh* the servant of *Sr. Colm*, ** *Gil-Jes* the youth under the protection of *Jesus*, *Gil-Christ* the youth under the protection of *Christ*. It wou'd appear that the *Scandinavians* had a similar custom, as we see in the name of *Thorkel*, and also in that of the old Earls of *March*, *Gos-patric*, compounded of *Gose*, the *Swedish* word for a Boy, and *Patric* the tutelar saint of Ireland.

29. *Thormod*. Brave like *Thor*; from *Thor*, and *mod*, Is. courage.

30. *Ungi*. The young.

31. *Uspac*. The Restless; from the negative Is. particle *u*, and *spær* quiet,
Perhaps

* *Mal-Jes* was the true name of the old Earls of *Strathern*.

** Now pronounced *Gillies*.

Perhaps the antient name of the *Argyle* Family *Gil-espie*, i. e. the sons of the Bishop, is a corruption for *Gil-Uspac*, i. e. the sons of *Uspac*. - The family may have assumed this appellation from another *Ospac*, father to *Somerled*, (a chieftain of the isles and probably predecessor to the other *Somerleds*) whose daughter *Tbora*, about the year 1064, was married to *Erlend*, the son of *Tborfin*, the son of *Sigurd*, Earl of *Orkney*, which *Sigurd* was son in law to *Maol-Choluimb II.* King of *Scotland*.



C

Nokorax

Nokorár Vífor
or
Háttalykli
SNORRA STURLASONAR
of
Konong HAKON ok SKULA Jarl.

I.

V_{ex} idn, vellir _{rodna}.

Verpr lind, þrimo fnerpir,

Fæz gagn, fylkir eignaz.

Falr hitnar, fedz witnir,

Skekr rōnd, skildir bendaz

Skelfr askr, gridom raskar.

Brandr gellr, brynior fundraz.

Braka spiðr, litaz öifar.

2.

* The order of the words in the Version corresponds nearly to that of the original; and figures are inserted, where necessary, to

P O E M S
by
SNORRO STURLSON,
Scald or Bard
to
HACO IV. King of Norway,
now first published from original Manuscripts
in the KING OF DENMARK'S library.*

I.

Description of a Norwegian battle.

The strife begins. Fields redden.
Fav'ours are hurled. The din increases.
** Ground is gain'd. The Monarch conquers,
The blade grows warm. Wolves are fated.
Bosses ring. Shields are bent.
The hero, foe to peace, pants with ardor.
The sword clashes. Mails are cleft.
Spears thunder. Shafts are stain'd in blood.

C 2

2.

shew in what succession the English words
are to be read, ** Advantage,

Frama skotnar gram gotnom,
 Giöf fannar, röf spannar.
 Menstiklir venst miclar
 Manndyrdir vann skyrdar.
 Herfiöld bera hölldar
 Hagbáls lagar stála,
 Fridaz fialldan vid valldi
 Val-lanz, fvala branda.

3.

Jörd ver fiklingr fwerdom
 Sundr - rífa ípiör under,
 Lind sker í styr steinda.
 Stöckr haus af bol lausom,
 Falla fólk á velli
 Fremr milldr jöfr hilldi.
 Egg bítr á lim lyti
 Liggr skör snidin hiörvi.

2.

On King *Haco's* generosity in rewarding merit.
The King distributes liberally,
His gifts prove it, bracelets for the wrists.
*The distributor of * chains is accustomed to many*
Praises of men, well deserved, and already mention'd.
His numerous Captains carry
Trusty temper'd steel;
Our Prince rarely is tamed with threats,
Or swords that dye the fields of slaughter.

3.

On his patriotism.

⁴ ⁵ ³ ¹ ² ⁶ ⁷ ⁸
His lands guards our Hero with the sword,
⁴ ³ ¹ ² ⁵
Asunder rives the spear wounds.
¹ ³ ⁴ ⁵ ⁶ ⁷ ²
The shaft is cut in battle varnished.
⁴ ¹ ² ⁵ ⁶ ⁷ ³
Drops the head off the trunk sever'd.
³ ¹ ² ⁴ ⁵ ⁶
Fall the Folk in the field.
⁴ ¹ ² ³ ⁵ ⁶
Rouzes the generous Monarch the combat.
¹ ² ³ ⁴ ⁵ ⁶ ⁸ ⁹ ⁷
The edge of his blade bites into limbs wounds;
¹ ² ⁴ ⁵ ³ ⁶ ⁷ ⁸
They lie in pieces cut with his sword.

C 3

4.

* for the neck.

4.

Klofinu spyr ek hiilm fyrir hylmis
 Hiarar egg. Duga seggir,
 Því er heldr þar er skekr skiöllido
 Skafin fverd litud ferdar:
 Bila munat gramr þóat gumna
 Gular rítor náí líta;
 Draga þorir hann yfir hreina
 Hvatan brand þrúmo randa.

5.

Ræfir glæfir
 Rökkva döckva
 Hvítom rítom
 Hreina reina
 Skreytir breytir
 Hrafna stafna
 Hringa stinga
 Hiðrtom fviðrtom.

6.

4.

His bravery.

⁵ Cleft ² bear ¹ I were ⁴ helms ³ before ⁶ of ¹² our ¹³ Defender ¹⁴
⁹ Of ¹⁰ the ¹¹ sword ⁷ the ⁸ edge. ⁴ Brave ³ were ¹ his ² soldiers,
⁵ Therefore ¹⁶ were ¹⁷ deeply ⁶ where ⁹ battered ⁸ were ⁷ shields
¹⁰ The ¹¹ polished ¹² swords ¹⁸ dyed ¹³ of ¹⁴ his ¹⁵ Tram.
⁵ Despond ³ does ⁴ not ¹ the ² King ⁶ tho' ¹³ of ¹⁴ foes,
¹⁰ The * ¹¹ yellow ¹² shields ⁷ he ⁸ may ⁹ see.
³ To ⁴ draw ² dares ¹ he ⁸ over ¹¹ of ¹² steel-clad
⁵ His ⁶ brandished ⁷ sword ⁹ the ¹⁰ thunders ¹³ hosts.

5.

On his care of the army.

¹ The ² King ³ richly ⁴ cloaths
⁵ His ⁷ warriors ⁶ rustic.
⁹ With ¹⁰ bright ¹¹ armour
⁵ Them ⁶ neat ⁷ and ⁸ expert.
⁴ Adorns ¹ our ² bounteous ³ Prince
¹⁴ For ¹⁵ Ravens ¹² to ¹³ provide
¹⁶ Heaps ¹⁵ transfixed
¹⁷ Of ¹⁹ hearts ¹⁸ ** black.

C 4

6.

* blazoned yellow. ** i. e. hostile.

6.

Röft gefr ödlingr jastar
 (Öl virða ek fva) firdom:
 Þögn fellir brim bragna
 (Biór forn er þat) horna;
 Máls kann mildingr heilsu
 (Miödr heitir fva) veita.
 Strugs kemr vals á veigar,
 (Vín kalla ek þat) gelli.

7.

Firriz hönd med harra
 (Hlumr lídr vetr af sumri,)
 Enn flest við lög lista
 Löng taka hvíld at-göngo,
 Öl mædir líd lyða.
 Lett skipaz höll hin retta
 Enn skal at giöf gola
 Gu'ls svífr tóm hín fulla.

8.

* *literally* herbaceous. ** the feat of the hawk
 i. e. the hand. *** i. e. wine.

6.

On the revels at his court during winter.

⁶Draughts ⁴gives ¹the ²noble ³King * ⁵barley

(Ale term *f* so) to his Hosts.

⁴The ⁵silence ³dispel ¹brimful ⁶of; ⁷heroes

(⁸That ⁹is ¹⁰mellow ¹¹beer) ²borns.

To the tongue can our generous Prince fluency

(Mead is named so) impart.

³Of ⁴milk ⁵comes ⁹of ** ¹⁰the ¹¹hawk ⁶to ⁷the ⁸seat

(Wine call *f* so) *** ¹the ²curdler.

7.

NB. Here every other line is responsive.

³Rest † ¹the ²hands ⁴with ⁵the ⁶mighty ⁷King,

(¹When ²gloomy ³follows ⁴winter ⁵after ⁶summer,)

¹And ²numerous ³by ⁴the ⁶liquid †† ⁵artificial

⁹Long ⁷take ⁸a ¹⁰respite ¹¹from ¹²war,

¹³And ¹⁴ale ¹⁵overcomes ¹⁶the ††† ¹⁷countless ¹⁸hosts,

⁵Easily ⁴is ⁶arranged ¹the ³hall ²regular.

¹Then ³cups †††† ¹⁰to ¹²the ¹¹gift ¹exbilarating

²Golden ⁸succeed, ⁴lately ⁵empty, ⁶filled ⁷again.

C 5

8.

† the warriors. †† ale. ††† Literally the host of
hosts. †††† some present given by the King.

8.

Hrein tíörnom gledr horna
 Horn náir lítt at þorna,
 Miödr hegnir böi bragna
 Bragningr skipa-sagnir.
 Fólk hömlo gefr framla
 Framlyndr vidum gamlar,
 Sá er helldr fyrir skot skiöldom
 Skiöldlungr, hynangs öldor.

9.

Drífr handar bleckr
 Þar er hilmir dreckr.
 Miök er brögnom beckr
 Blíd-skálar þeckr.
 Leika hylmis her
 Hrein gull - ker
 (fegi ek allt fem er)
 Vid [orda - sker.

10.

* i. e. so large as with difficulty to be emptied
 at one draught.

8.

¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷ ³ ⁷ ⁸
Of the clear beverage gladdens with horns
⁹ ¹⁰ ¹¹ ¹² ¹³
*(Horns * hardly to be emptied,)*
¹⁸ ¹⁹ ²⁰ ²¹ ²² ²³ ²⁴ ²⁵
Of Mead that cures the cares of Men
¹ ² ⁴ ⁵ ⁶
The King his naval train,
²² ²³ ²⁴ ¹⁶ ¹⁷
To his marine gives plentifully
¹ ² ³ ²⁵ ¹⁹ ²⁰ ²¹
*Our generous Leader hands of * old mead*
¹⁰ ⁸ ⁹ ⁷ ¹¹ ¹² ¹³ ¹⁴ ¹⁵
Wounds to avert taught of Weapons with his shield
⁴ ⁵ ⁶ ¹⁸ ¹⁹
And shielded hero bonied streams,

9.

² ¹
Showers hand - bracelets
³ ⁴ ⁵ ⁶ ⁷
There where our Defender drinks,
⁶ ⁵ ⁸ ⁹ ¹⁰ ¹
Much are by the Hero's streams
² ³ ⁴ ⁷
From sweet Goblets loved.
¹³ ² ³ ¹
Play the Kings there
⁴ ⁵
Clean golden - cups
⁷ ⁶ ⁸ ⁹ ¹⁰ ¹¹ ¹²
(Say I all as it really is)
¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷ ¹⁸
Against † the breakers of words.

10.

† the articulators of the voice, i. e. the teeth.

10.

1. Hverr fremr hilldi barra?
3. Hverr er mælingom færri?
5. Hverr gerir höpp at stærri?
7. Hverr kann aud at þverra?
2. Veldr Hertugi hialdri;
4. Hann er fyrstr blikorsmanna;
6. Hann er of höpp at synni;
8. Hann velir blik spannar.

11.

Veit ek verdari
 Þá er vell gefa
 Bröndom beita
 Ok búa sneckior
 Hærra hróðrar:
 Enn heima draga
 Unga iðfra
 Enn aud spörud.

12.

* here the lines 2, 4, 6, 8. are responsive to 1, 3, 5, 7.

IO.

Eulogy on Duke SKULO. *

1. *Who rouses the battle most?*
3. *Who is from cowardice farthest?*
5. *Who performs fortunate Deeds?*
7. *Who can his treasures liberally open?*
2. *In the field our DUKE is foremost;*
4. *He is the first of martial men;*
6. *He is by fortune attended;*
8. ** *He selects the beauteous bracelets.*

* II.

² K ¹ now ⁵ ¹ woribier
³ They ⁴ are ⁹ who ¹¹ gifts ¹⁰ bestow,
¹³ Swords ¹² brandish,
¹⁴ And ¹⁵ prepare ¹⁶ Galleys,
⁶ Of ⁷ exalted ⁸ lays,
¹⁷ Than ²² at ²³ home ²⁰ that ²¹ doze
¹⁸ Young ¹⁹ Nobles
²³ And ²⁶ treasures ²⁵ board.

12.

** i. e. As presents to the brave.

12.

Sókta ek fremd,

Sókta ek fund,

Sókta ek ítran jarl,

Þá er ek reift,

Þá er ek renna gat

Kalldan straum Kili

Kalldan frá Kili.

13.

Nióti alldrs

Ok aud - sala

Konongr ok jarl;

Þat ero qvædis lok,

Falli fyrr

Fold í ægin

Steini studd

Enn stullis lof!

14.

12.

On the Scalds desire of visiting SKULO.

³Sought ²ƒ ¹fame,
³Sought ²ƒ ¹courts,
²Sought ¹ƒ ³a ⁴noble ⁵Earl,
 Then far ƒ travelled,
¹Then ƒ ²to ⁴run ⁵made

Through the cold stream * my Keel,
 Through the cold sea my Keel.

13.

Votive verses to HACO and Earl SKULO.

Blest be with years

And regal - wealth

The King and Earl;

¹Thus ³my ⁴song ²ends.

⁷Fall ¹¹before

⁶Shall ¹the ²earth ⁸into ⁹the ¹⁰Deep

⁴On ⁵rocks ³established

¹⁴Of ¹⁵those ¹⁶Rulers ¹⁷perishes ¹²the ¹³glory.

14.

* i. e. my ship.

V. Specimens of singular versification.

14.

Hristi hvatt þá er reistiz
 Herföng miög löng ve-ftöng
 Samdi fólk er framdiz
 Fullsterk hring - ferk grams - verk.
 Hönd lek hveriom reyndiz
 Hiör kalldr, all-valldr mann-balldr
 Egg frá ek breida biuggo
 Bragning fylking stód þing.

15.

Slíkt er sva
 Siklingr á
 Ölld þes ann
 Ord-róm þann
 Jarla er
 Austan ver
 Skatna skyrstr
 Skúli dyrstr.

16.

Slód kan sneida
 Seima geima
 Hnigfák haka
 Hleypa greypa
 Hinn er af hlunní
 Hesta festa
 Lætr leifdr skati
 Langa gánga.

17.

Mærd skal auka
 Mistarlauka
 Góma sverdi
 Grundar skerdi
 Dyrð skal segja
 Drótt má þegja
 Styriar glóða
 Stökkvi móða.

18.

Lof er flutt förom
 Fyrir gunnörom
 Ne spurd spörom
 Spiöll gram inörom
 Hesi ek hans förom
 Til hróðrar görom
 Ypt á vörom
 Fyr auds börom.







